IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently amended) A method for operating a protection system to protect an application from unauthorized operation, wherein the application will fail to operate on a device that is outside a predetermined operating region, the method comprising:

associating a geographic identifier with the application, wherein the geographic identifier identifies the predetermined operating region;

after said associating, downloading the application and the geographic identifier to the device;

receiving a request to execute the application on the device, wherein the request includes the geographic identifier;

determining a device location;

comparing the device location with the predetermined operating region identified by the geographic identifier; and

sending an authorization code to allow an execution of the application if the device is within the predetermined operating region; and

preventing the application from executing when the device is outside the predetermined operating region,

wherein the protection system generates a digital signature for the geographic identifier.

2.   (Cancel)

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of preventing comprises preventing the application from accessing information on a server.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the device is a wireless device.

2

5.   (Currently amended) An apparatus that operates to protect an application from unauthorized operation, wherein the application will fail to operate on a device that is outside a predetermined operating region, the apparatus comprising:

a geographic database that operates to associate the application with a geographic indicator that identifies the predetermined operating region <u>wherein a logic included in the geographic database generates a digital signature for the geographic indicator</u>; and

processing logic that operates to match a device location with the predetermined operating region identified by the geographic indicator to determine whether the device is outside the predetermined operating region, wherein if the device is outside the predetermined operating region the application is prevented from operating<u>, and further wherein if the device is within the predetermined operating region, an authorization code is generated so as to allow the application to operate</u>.

6.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising transmission logic to transmit the application and the geographic indicator to the device.

7.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising receiving logic to receive a communication from the application that includes the geographic identifier.

8.   (Cancel)

9.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the device is a wireless device.

10.   (Currently amended) An apparatus that operates to protect an application from unauthorized operation, wherein the application will fail to operate on a device that is outside a predetermined operating region, the apparatus comprising:

means for associating the application with a geographic indicator that identifies the predetermined operating region;

means for matching a device location with the predetermined operating region identified by the geographic indicator;

means for determining whether the device is outside the predetermined operating region; ~~and~~

means for sending an authorization code to allow an execution of the application if the device is within the predetermined operating region; and

means for preventing the application from operating if the device is outside the predetermined operating region~~,~~

wherein a digital signature is generated for the geographic indicator.

11.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising means for transmitting the application and the geographic indicator to the device.

12.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising means for receiving a communication from the application that includes the geographic identifier.

13.   (Cancel)

14.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the device is a wireless device.

15.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable media comprising instructions that when executed by a processor in a protection system operate to protect an application from unauthorized operation, wherein the application will fail to operate on a device that is outside a predetermined operating region, the computer-readable media comprising:

4

instructions for associating the application with a geographic indicator that identifies the predetermined operating region;

instructions for matching a device location with the predetermined operating region identified by the geographic indicator;

instructions for determining whether the device is outside the predetermined operating region; ~~and~~

instructions for sending an authorization code to allow an execution of the application if the device is within the predetermined operating region; and

instructions for preventing the application from operating if the device is outside the predetermined operating region,

wherein a digital signature is generated for the geographic indicator.

16.   (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 15, further comprising instructions for transmitting the application and the geographic indicator to the device.

17.   (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 15, further comprising instructions for receiving a communication from the application that includes the geographic identifier.

18.   (Cancel)

19.   (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 15, wherein the device is a wireless device.